



U.S. House of Representatives Committee on the Judiciary F. James Sensenbrenner, Jr., Chairman

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News Advisory

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Sensenbrenner Applauds Senate's 89-to-10 Approval of PATRIOT Act Renewal Legislation

WASHINGTON, D.C. – House Judiciary Committee Chairman F. James Sensenbrenner, Jr. (R-Wis.), issued the following statement regarding the Senate's overwhelming approval today by a 89-to-10 margin of the PATRIOT Act conference report:

“Today, the Senate faced a decision whether we continued to wage the war on terror or whether we retreated to a pre-9/11 security approach. Thankfully, the overwhelming majority of the Senate voted to extend the most critical anti-terrorism legislation enacted since 9/11. The 89-to-10 bipartisan vote illustrates an understanding that the PATRIOT Act has kept us safer while protecting the civil liberties we cherish.

“I remain thoroughly disappointed, though, that one of my state's Senators continued to play political games right until the end. His single-minded obsession with blocking this anti-terror law – despite over 30 new civil liberty safeguards – was categorically rejected by 89 Senators who chose to put our national security first.

“Enactment of this legislation will ensure that the CIA and FBI will continue sharing information to help ‘connect the dots’ and prevent terrorists from striking. Additionally, the PATRIOT Act legislation bolsters port security by providing law enforcement new authorities to secure our ports, enhances penalties for attacks against mass transit and railroads, combats terrorism financing networks, improves air travel security, and fights the deadly scourge of methamphetamine abuse in our communities.”

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